REMARKS

Claims 1-12 are pending in the present application. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1, 2, 4, 7, 8, 10, and 12 have been amended. New claims 13 and 14 have been added. This application now includes claims 1-14.

An advantage that the present invention has over the references previously cited by the Examiner is that the present invention allows a computer workstation connected to a network to automatically create on itself a network printer port for immediate communication with a printer of a designated type that is already connected to the network. Essentially, as a result of the present invention the user need only connect the computer workstation to the network, and the network printer port is created on the computer workstation without user intervention, and may be created "silently", without the user even knowing the network printer port was created. (See Applicants' specification at page 3, lines 26-33).

Applicants' claims have been amended to clarify that it is the computer workstation itself, connected to a network, that performs printer discovery over the network to identify printers of a designated type, and based on this printer discovery, it is the workstation itself that automatically creates its own network printer port for the discovered printer of the designated type. Accordingly, Applicants believe the now pending claims clearly and patentably define the present invention over the previously cited references.

For example, as indicated in White, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,301,012 B1), it is the printer 30 that initiates the process through which ultimately, a *communication port 175* is *created by software 50 residing in print server 20* so that printer 30 may be used by client processor, e.g., workstation, 15 (see White, et al. Figs. 2 and 3; col. 3, ll. 13-18; and column 4, lines 17-22), whereas in contrast, in Applicants' claims, it is *the computer workstation* that initiates the process through which *the workstation itself* performs discovery of printers of a

designated type and in which *the workstation* creates on itself a network printer port for the networked printer of the designated type.

New claims 13 and 14 correspond generally to original claim 7, and accordingly, do not introduce new subject matter. Each of claims 7, 13 and 14 generally recite that the discovery packet is a propriety broadcast message to which <u>only</u> a printer of the designated type on said network will respond. More specifically, new claim 13 recites, "The method of claim 8, wherein said computer workstation performing said printer discovery sends said discovery packet as a propriety broadcast message to which only said printer of said designated type on said network will respond." New claim 14 recites, "The method of claim 10, wherein only said printer of said designated type on said network will respond to said propriety broadcast message."
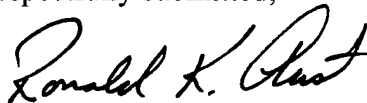
In contrast, Roy, et al. column 2, lines 31-43 states that, "A device implementing this invention responds to an HTTP request for device discovery by spawning a device discovery task that broadcasts a SNMP over UDP based request out on a sub-network for devices to respond. When responses are received they are parsed and the device information such as network address, name, status, version and model is added to a list of discovered devices. <u>Any responses from devices outside a specified class of devices, such as those not of a certain brand, *are disregarded*</u>." (Emphasis added). Thus, in Roy, et al. responses are received from devices, e.g., printers, in the class of interest <u>and</u> from devices <u>not in the class of interest</u>. Thus, Roy, et al. does not send a proprietary broadcast message to which <u>only</u> printers of the designated type will respond, as variously recited, for example, in Applicants' claims 7, 13 and 14.

Applicants believe claims 1-14 are in condition for allowance in their present form, and it is respectfully requested that the Examiner so find and issue a Notice of Allowance in due course.

In the event Applicants have overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicants hereby conditionally petition therefor and authorize that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095, TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (317) 894-0801.

Respectfully submitted,

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